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ABSTRACT

What happens when the rhetoric of school reform meets the realities of school change? In this book, a teacher offers a down-to-earth, very personal, often funny account of what life is like in a middle-class, suburban high school where teachers, students, and administrators struggle against school bureaucracy, inertia, and the difficulty of change. This is a story, not a report. It is an insiders perspective and is a work of fiction. Though it draws heavy on the author's own experience and is intended to be realistic, it does not suggest any particular instructional strategy or organizational theory. It gestures toward certain truths about teaching, learning, and instructional change. Through stories that inform as well as entertain, the author gives an up-close and realistic view of what happens when research-driven models for school reform meet the very messy, human reality of school. (RR)

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